REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 3 and 8 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7 have been amended without the addition of new matter.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 9 are pending.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Japanese Patent Publication No. 03-159674 ("JP '674") in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. 09-044246 ("JP '246"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claims 3 and 8 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot.

Regarding claims 1 and 7, they have been amended to recite the features that

> the field comprises: a mat; a cover that cloaks a surface of the mat; and a plurality of placement portions, in which the predetermined object to be detected can be embedded, which are concave portions that open through the surface of the mat so that the position of the object to be detected can be arbitrarily change changed.

According to the above feature, when the objects are located in all or part of the placement portions and the cover cloaks the surface of the mat, the placement portions cannot be distinguished. Therefore, a game can be provided where the moving body looks for (or keeps away from) the objects while moving on the mat according to a control signal.

In JP '674, the Examiner considers magnetic inducible belt C to correspond to the claimed "object to be detected". However, the object is set in the area between protruding portions, the area corresponds to placement portion of the object to be detected. In contrast, the placement portion of JP '674 is line-shaped for setting the belt-shaped object to be detected. JP '674 discloses an invention wherein the line-shaped magnetic inducible belt is used for making a track on which the moving body pursues. Therefore, it is necessary that the placement portion of JP '674 is line-shaped.

Moreover, in JP '674, it is necessary, for the moving body's driving, that the object to be detected is detected. On the other hand, in the present invention, the moving body drives according to control signals transmitted from the transmitter. Therefore, when the object to be detected is detected, it is possible that some processes not related to driving can be implemented in the moving body.

Thus, JP '674 fails to disclose and suggest that the moving body looks for or keeps away from the object to be detected while moving over the track. Moreover, in JP '674, the placement portion for the magnetic inducible body is provided just under the track, on which the moving body drives. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art is not taught or motivated by JP '674 to provide placement portions under the track for the object to be detected while the moving body drives. Therefore, JP '674 does not teach or suggest that concave portions as the placement portions where to embed the objects to be detected are provided on the surface of the mat.

Additionally, JP '246 discloses a plurality colored areas (3,4,5) wherein each color differs from each other are provided on a surface of a field where a moving body 1 drives. In the moving body, processes unique to each colored area are implemented (*see,* for example, Fig. 13). The

Examiner contends that each color corresponds to the object to be detected of the present invention. However, JP '246 fails to disclose and suggest plural concave portions as the placement portions for embedding the objects to be detected, are provided on the surface of the field. As the object to be detected of JP '246 (color) is not solid matter, one of ordinary skill in the art is not taught or motivated that the placement portion described in JP '246 shall be solid matter.

Therefore, even if JP '246 and JP '674 are combined, the above features of the present claims are not disclosed from the combination.

As mentioned above, the present invention has the features that are not obvious from JP '246 or JP '674 and the features can provide significant effects. Therefore, claim 1 is in an allowable condition.

As claims 2, 4-6, and 9 are dependent on claims of claim 1 and 7, each of them also has the above features. Therefore, we believe that each of claims 2, 4-6, and 9 are also in an allowable condition for the same reason as claims 1 and 7.

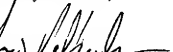
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below if the Examiner believes any issue can be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment.

Dated: June 7, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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